

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROSECUTION
ART UNIT 1617**

#17/C

#KID
4-11-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Arthur J. Coury, Stephen D. Goodrich, Hildegard M. Kramer, Luis Z. Avila, John F. Traverse, and Peter K. Jarrett

Serial No.: 09/658,390

Art Unit: 1617

Filed: September 8, 2000

Examiner: M. Willis

For: *HYDROGELS FOR ORTHOPEDIC REPAIR*

BOX AF
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed on January 6, 2003, please amend the application as follows. Submitted with this response and amendment is a Request for Continued Examination. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charged \$750.00, the fee for a Request for Continued Examination, to Deposit Account No. 50-1868. It is believed that no additional fee is required with this submission. However, should an additional fee be required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 50-1868.

U.S.S.N. 09/658,390

Filed: September 8, 2000

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Amendment

Please enter the following amendment.

Claims 1-37 (Canceled).

C¹
38. (currently amended) A composition for forming a water-absorbing, high modulus polymeric material comprising at least one macromer and at least one monomer,

wherein the macromer comprises hydrophobic and hydrophilic regions, ~~and~~ has a molecular weight of 500 to 200,000 Da and has at least two polymerizable groups,

wherein the monomer contains at least one vinyl group and has a molecular weight of less than 1,000 Da, and

wherein the monomer comprises at least 30% (wt/wt) of the composition, and

wherein the composition ~~is capable of forming~~ forms a gel upon polymerization.

39. (Original) The composition of claim 38, wherein the composition is in the form of a fluid or paste.

40. (Original) The composition of claim 38, further comprising water.

41. (Original) The composition of claim 38, wherein the macromer is polyethyleneglycol-trimethylene carbonate-diacrylate.

42. (Original) The composition of claim 38, wherein the monomer is selected from the group consisting of vinyl caprolactam, methyl acrylate, methyl methacrylate, styrene, N-vinyl pyrrolidone, and N-vinyl imidazole, diacetone acrylamide, vinyloxyethanol, 2-acrylamido-2-methylpropane, and methyl acryloyl lactate and mixtures and derivatives thereof.